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Just Position, Serious Attitude, Unshakable Resolve

(Nhan Dan editorial of May 10, 1969)

PRINCIPLES AND MAIN CONTENT OF THE OVERALL SOLUTION

Proposed By the South Viet Nam
National Front for Liberation to the
South Viet Nam Problem to Help
Restore Peace in Viet Nam

PROCEEDING from a desire to reach a political solution with a view to ending the U.S. imperialists' war of aggression in South Viet Nam and helping restore peace in Viet Nam;

On the basis of respect for the fundamental national rights of the Vietnamese people;

Proceeding from the fundamental principles of the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam and the actual situation in Viet Nam;

On the basis of the Political Programme and the five-point solution of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, which are in keeping with the four-point stand of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam;

The South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation espounds as follows the principles and main content of an overall solution to the South Viet Nam problem to help restore peace in Viet Nam:

1. To respect the Vietnamese people's fundamental national rights, i.e., independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity, as recognized by the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam;

2. The U.S. Government must withdraw from South Viet Nam all U.S. troops, military personnel, arms and war material, and all troops, military personnel, arms and war material of the other foreign countries of the U.S. camp without posing any condition whatsoever; liquidate all U.S. military bases in South Viet Nam; renounce all encroachments on the sovereignty, territory and security of South Viet Nam and the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam;

3. The Vietnamese people's right to defend their Fatherland is the sacred, inalienable right of self-defence of all peoples. The question of the Vietnamese armed forces in South Viet Nam shall be resolved by the Vietnamese parties among themselves;

4. The people of South Viet Nam settle themselves their own affairs without foreign interference. They decide themselves the political regime of South Viet Nam through free and democratic general elections. Through free and democratic general elections, a Constituent Assembly will be set up. A Constitution worked out, and a coalition government of South Viet Nam installed, reflecting national concord and the broad union of all social strata;

5. During the period intervening between the restoration of peace and the general elections, neither party shall impose its political regime on the people of South Viet Nam.

The political forces representing the various social strata and political tendencies in South Viet Nam that stand for peace, independence and neutrality, including those persons who, for political reasons, have to live abroad, will enter into talks to set up a provisional coalition government based on the principle of equality, democracy and mutual respect with a view to achieving a peaceful, independent, democratic and neutral South Viet Nam.

The provisional coalition government is to have the following tasks:

a) To implement the agreements to be concluded on the withdrawal of the troops of the United States and the other foreign countries of the American camp, etc.

b) To achieve national concord, and a broad union of all social strata, political forces, nationalities, religious communities, and all persons, no matter what their political beliefs and their past may be, provided they stand for peace, independence and neutrality.

c) To achieve broad democratic freedoms — freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of gathering, freedom of belief, freedom to establish political parties and organizations, freedom to demonstrate, etc.; to set free those persons jailed on political grounds; to prohibit all acts of terror, repression and discrimination against people collaborating with either side, and who are now in the country or abroad, as provided for in the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam.

(Continued page 2)

AT the May 8, 1969, 10th session of the Paris Conference on Viet Nam, Tran Huu Kiem, chief delegate of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, presented an important document of the Central Committee of the NFL concerning "the principles and main content of an overall solution to the South Viet Nam problem, to help restore peace in Viet Nam."

Nam problem have existed sympathy and support from the world's peoples, including the progressive people in the United States.

Meanwhile, notwithstanding their bitter failure, the U.S. imperialist aggressors remain stubborn and belligerent. Since Nixon came into office, the U.S. has continued pushing up its military operations, multiplying terrorist raids against the South Vietnamese, increasing aerial attacks on villages and rice fields, committing more and more heinous crimes against the people. It is clinging obstinately to the bellicose and rotten Thieu Ky-Huong puppet, while feverishly boosting the strength of the puppet army. The U.S. has also continued its aerial violations of the sovereignty and threats to the security of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and has even bombed and rocketed many of her populated areas. At the Paris Conference on Viet Nam, the U.S. delegate resorted to distortions and slanders to stall the discussion of the fundamental question, i.e., cessation of U.S. aggression and withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Viet Nam. Because of this stubborn attitude, the Paris Conference has not been able to move an inch forward through 5 sessions over three and half months.

(Continued page 2)

South Viet Nam

◎ Two enemy entrenched camps destroyed in Tay Ninh province, a Battalion H.Q. and 7 U.S.-puppet companies wiped out within 5 days.

◎ 49 U.S. military vehicles destroyed, 2 U.S. companies wiped out in 3 ambushes on Route No.13 North of Saigon.

◎ More than 200 enemy troops knocked out near Nam Luong on Apr. 25, 70 others put out of action, 6 105-mm cannons destroyed, 2 ammo depots and 8 petrol dumps burnt by women gunners on May 2 at Vinh Thuan, Mekong Delta.

◎ In 10 days, in 70 PLAF attacks in the sector close to the DMZ, 1,250 U.S.-puppet casualties reported, 30 planes and helicopters shot down, destroyed or damaged.

North Viet Nam

To date, the number of American aircraft downed in North Viet Nam amounts to **3,286**

Mr. TRAN BUU KIEM Minister of State

Presents the Overall Solution Proposed by the National Front for Liberation to the South Viet Nam Problem

Declares Full Support for the Just Position of the NLF and Stresses Our Country's Policy of Lasting Friendship Towards Cambodia and Laos

The U.S. must be held fully responsible for the deadlock in the Paris Conference on Viet Nam.

By waging its war of aggression against Viet Nam, the U.S. has grossly trampled underfoot the fundamental national rights of the Vietnamese people. The 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam and international law, and has perpetrated abominable crimes against the Vietnamese people. Exercising their sacred right to self defence, the people of South Viet Nam as well as the entire people of Viet Nam, united as one man, have risen up to resist U.S. aggression and save their country. Under the glorious banner of the South Viet Nam NLF, the valiant resistance war of the South Viet Nam people has won great victories.

Having sustained serious defeats in its aggressive war and faced with the strong demands of the people of the United States and the world, the U.S. was compelled to accept the mediation of the DRVN and the DRVN and the DRVN to accept the holding of the Paris four-party conference with the participation of the delegates of the South Viet Nam NLF, so as to find a peaceful solution to the Viet Nam problem.

To provide a basis for a correct solution of the South Viet Nam problem, on November 3, 1968, the South Viet Nam NLF made public its free-point position. Proceeding from that position, the delegation of the South Viet Nam NLF, with seriousness and goodwill, has for more than three months been making unceasing efforts to help the Paris Conference move forward, so as to promptly put an end to the U.S. aggressive war, and restore peace in Viet Nam.

But what has the U.S. done in the meantime? Though compelled to take part in this conference, it has continued to intensify its aggressive war, and to maintain its neo-colonialist regime in South Viet Nam.

During the presidential election campaign, Mr. Nixon promised to bring peace to Viet Nam. Since his coming to the White House, he has many times spoken of "peace", and recently about a "peace programme" for Viet Nam. However, the Nixon administration has acted quite contrary to its words.

In South Viet Nam, the U.S. has stepped up its

aggressive war, displaying unprecedented ferocity. It has not ceased to send more U.S. and satellite troops, more weapons and war means to South Viet Nam, and has increased the budget for that war. American troops have been sent on sweep operations everywhere, and all types of aircraft, particularly B-52s, concentrated to conduct day and night savage air bombings over densely populated areas. The regions along the sea and rivers, and around American bases have been subjected to shelling by U.S. warships and heavy artillery. Such barbarous crimes as those perpetrated by the U.S. in the U.S. and in the world, but U.S. heavy failure. Ardently cherishing independence and freedom, the South Viet Nam people have been resolutely pushing ahead their sacred resistance war, and have won new glorious victories in their Spring offensive. The U.S. aggressive war is being further driven into an impasse, the so-called "de-Americanization" of the war, that is, the Vietnamese to fight Vietnamese.

At this Conference, the American delegates have evaded the basic principles put forward by the delegation of the South Viet Nam NLF, and that of the Government of the DRVN. They distort history, repeat again and again the slanderous allegations that North Viet Nam makes aggression against South Viet Nam and so-called "concrete proposals" which are in fact unreasonable demands aimed at covering up the U.S. aggressive and belligerent policy of the war, and at the same time compelling the South Viet Nam people to ransom to the cessation of that aggression. They obstinately claim for mutual withdrawal, so as to avoid the total withdrawal of U.S. and satellite troops from South Viet Nam and to refuse to meet the imperative and legitimate demands of the Vietnamese and American peoples, and of progressive opinion in the world.

The Thieu Ky Huong administration has executed all the orders of the U.S. in the latter's intention of the war. They ruthlessly repress the movement of the people in South Viet Nam cities who demand independence and peace. They arrest, torture, and deport students, pupils, businessmen, tradesmen, Buddhist monks, Catholic priests, religious people and anybody

else who oppose them. They seek every means to disturb the Paris Four-Party Conference, and has not ceased to justify the U.S. aggression and to maintain American troops in South Viet Nam to get protection from them.

The U.S. policy of intensifying the war and negotiating from a position of strength has kept the Paris Conference at a standstill, against the desire of the people in Viet Nam, in the U.S. and in the world. But U.S. heavy failure. Ardently cherishing independence and freedom, the South Viet Nam people have been resolutely pushing ahead their sacred resistance war, and have won new glorious victories in their Spring offensive. The U.S. aggressive war is being further driven into an impasse, the so-called "de-Americanization" of the war, that is, the Vietnamese to fight Vietnamese.

Broad sectors of the public opinion in the U.S. and in the world are demanding that the Nixon administration put an immediate end to the aggressive war in Viet Nam, withdraw unconditionally all U.S. and satellite troops from South Viet Nam and promptly restore peace in Viet Nam.

In order to open the way to the progress of this conference, as desired by the people in Viet Nam, in the U.S. and in the world, our delegation, by order of the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam NLF presents to the Conference the following document of the South Viet Nam NLF:

PRINCIPLES AND MAIN CONTENT OF THE OVERALL SOLUTION TO THE SOUTH VIET NAM PROBLEM TO HELP RESTORE PEACE IN VIET NAM

(see text on page 1)

The overall solution put forward by the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation fully meets the national rights of the Viet-

namese people and the interests of world peace.

The South Viet Nam NLF, which has organized and led the South Vietnamese people in their struggle against U.S. aggression, is the authentic representative of the South Viet Nam people, full competent to settle all problems relating to South Viet Nam.

The aforesaid overall solution to the South Viet Nam problem proposed by the South Viet Nam NLF once again demonstrates our correct position, and our consistent goodwill and serious intent.

This overall solution ensures the fundamental national rights of the Vietnamese people and the right to self-determination of the South Vietnamese people. It ensures a lasting peace in Viet Nam. It embodies the spirit of broad national concord of the South Viet Nam people. It contributes to preserve peace and security in Indo-China and South East Asia, responds to the aspirations for peace of the American people as well as the world's people. This solution creates conditions for the U.S. to put an honorable end to its war, a war which is costly in human life and property, unpopular, and prejudicial to the U.S. prestige.

The South Viet Nam NLF is firmly confident that the people of both South and North Viet Nam standing shoulder to shoulder in their common struggle for independence, freedom and peace, will no doubt wholeheartedly support this overall solution.

The South Viet Nam NLF which is closely united with the Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces, believes that the overall policy of broad national union and concord, all religious, political, social and cultural organizations in South Viet Nam, all political forces and Vietnamese residents abroad will warmly hail this solution, and the national-minded and peace-loving members of the Saigon army and administration will sympathize with it.

The people and governments of the socialist countries and of the peace-and justice-loving countries, the

peace and democratic organization in the world, which have always given vigorous support to the South Vietnamese people's resistance war against U.S. aggression, for national salvation will surely support the overall solution to the South Viet Nam problem put forward by the NLF. Together with the progressive people in the U.S., the American personalities, intellectuals and clergymen who have voiced their opposition to the U.S. unjust war in Viet Nam and those American servicemen who are fed up with the war of aggression and who desire to be rapidly brought home, will no doubt sympathize with this solution too.

But during the last 15 sessions, the U.S. has evaded the key problem, that is to withdraw all U.S. and satellite troops from South Viet Nam without posing any condition whatsoever. Moreover, the Nixon administration has been making every effort to intensify the war of aggression in South Viet Nam. It has been doing its best to maintain the warlike and dictatorial Thieu-Ky-Huong administration as a tool for the implementation of the policy that consists in "using Vietnamese to fight Vietnamese" under the label of "de-Americanizing" or "Vietnamizing" the war, for the furtherance of neo-colonialism in South Viet Nam, and for the perpetual rule of Viet Nam. It has feverishly increased reconnaissance flights over nearly all the provinces of North Viet Nam and air raids on the four-point stand of the Government of the DRVN.

What it is trying to do is to gain a position of strength in the battlefield, as well as at the Conference table.

Regarding the four-point stand of the Government of the DRVN and the five points of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, the basis for a correct solution of the Viet Nam problem - the U.S. representatives have persisted in rejecting them groundlessly and consistently advanced nothing but absurd arguments. They have been putting forward so-called concrete proposals which, in fact, are merely aimed at enabling the U.S. to pursue its war of aggression and neo-colonialism in South Viet Nam under the plan of the Nixon administration.

EVERYONE knows that it is because of its refusal to make progress in aggression and its failure to subjugate the 31 million people of Viet Nam that the U.S. has unconditionally ceased its bombardments on the entire territory of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and accept the holding in Paris of a four-party conference on Viet Nam including the representatives of the DRVN, the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, the U.S. and the Saigon administration, whose object is to find a peaceful solution to the problem.

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Mr. XUAN THUY's Statement

personnel, arms and war material of the other foreign countries in the U.S. camp without posing any condition whatsoever. It once again rejects the U.S. absurd arguments about "mutual withdrawal" and about a "conditional withdrawal of troops", which in fact consist in equating the victim of aggression - the Vietnamese people, with the aggressor - the U.S.

As far as the problem of the Vietnamese armed forces in South Viet Nam is concerned, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam fully shares the view of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation that the military demarcation line between the two zones will be solved by a provisional character only, a matter of Viet Nam people's will to self-determination, i.e.,

that solution sets forth a clear, unequivocal demand regarding the achievement of the South Viet Nam people's will to self-determination, i.e.,

The people of South Viet Nam settle by themselves their internal affairs without foreign interference.

They themselves decide about the political regime of South Viet Nam through free and democratic general elections; through these elections, they will set up a constituent assembly, work out a constitution, install a coalition government, etc.

During the period between the restoration of peace and the general elections, neither party shall impose its political regime on the people of South Viet Nam, the political forces representing the various social strata and political trends in South Viet Nam that stand for peace, independence and neutrality including those persons who, for political reasons, have to live abroad, will enter into talks to set up a provisional coalition government based on the principle of equality, democracy and mutual respect, with a view to achieving a peaceful, independent, democratic and neutral South Viet Nam, etc.

The Government of the DRVN fully approves of this viewpoint and unreservedly supports the rights of the South Viet Nam people, pending the peaceful reunification of Viet Nam, to decide by themselves their internal affairs, without foreign interference.

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that solution stresses that the reunification of Viet Nam will be achieved step by step, by peaceful means, through discussions and agreement between the two zones, without foreign interference. Pending national reunification, the two zones re-establish normal relations in all fields on the basis of mutual respect. They undertake to refrain from joining any military alliance with foreign countries, to allow foreign country to maintain military bases, troops and military personnel on their respective soil, and not to recognize the protection of any country, or military alliance or bloc.

The Government of the DRVN reaffirms that according to the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam the military demarcation line between the two zones at the 17th parallel is of a provisional character only, a matter of Viet Nam people's will to self-determination, i.e.,

that solution demands that the U.S. put a final end to all its violations of the sovereignty and security of the DRVN, and that it be held responsible for the damages and destruction it has caused to the DRVN as well as to the South Viet Nam people. This is a very legitimate demand.

I think it necessary to add that the ten-point overall solution advanced by the South Viet Nam NLF is utterly correct because it is based upon the present real situation in Viet Nam. The real situation that during the past 15 years, the U.S. has sabotaged the 1954 Geneva Agreements and undermined the fundamental national rights of the Vietnamese people and has directly waged a war of aggression with more than half a million U.S. expeditionary troops. The real situation is that the South Viet Nam people, under the leadership of the NLF, have waged a war of resistance against U.S. aggression and have recorded many great victories. The real situation is that the South Viet Nam NLF, which organizes and leads the South Viet Nam people in their war of resistance, is their authentic representative and is competent to settle all questions relating to South Viet Nam. Any solution that tries to achieve one of these realities is of no value.

The overall solution of the Front is most sensible and reasonable because it responds to the aspirations of all social strata and fully reflects the spirit of national concord in the interest of the South Viet Nam people.

Such an overall solution to the South Viet Nam problem as proposed by the South Viet Nam NLF, does not only contribute to the restoration of peace in Viet Nam but also opens up a prospect for the consolidation of peace and friendly relations between the three countries in Indo-China and the consolidation of peace in South East Asia.

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Everyone can see that, for many years, the U.S. has not only aggressed Viet Nam but has also unceasingly intervened in and aggressed Laos and Cambodia. The U.S. has also threatened its independence and sovereignty. The U.S. aggresses Viet Nam in order to aggress the Kingdom of Laos and Cambodia, intervenes in and aggresses the Kingdom of Laos, encroaches upon and menaces the Kingdom of Cambodia in order to aggress Viet Nam.

This precisely explains why the Indo-Chinese peoples unite themselves ever more closely to fight against the U.S. policy of aggression, in defence of independence and peace.

As for the government of the DRVN it will, as it has done in the past, persist in its policy of respect for the 1954 Geneva Agreement on Laos, of respect for the independence, sovereignty, neutrality and territorial integrity of the Kingdom of Cambodia within her present borders, and demands that the U.S. government renounce all acts of intervention in and aggression against these two countries.

The government of the DRVN hopes that, in their mutual relations, the countries in Indo-China will follow the five principles of peaceful coexistence: mutual respect for sovereignty, equality, non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, peaceful coexistence. The countries in Indo-China will develop and strengthen their economic and cultural cooperation, support the relations of lasting friendship and good neighbourhood. The friendly relations between

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(Continued from last issue)

True nature of successive puppet administrations.

Rigging elections is also a customary method used by the puppet administration. Their brazen and repulsive fraudulent manoeuvres renewed every now and then ha-

One of the most typical products of the inhumanity of the puppet administration is the wicked thugs. These are the most heinous dangerous and effective agents used by the U.S. puppets to suppress the people and check the revolution. These bloodthirsty monsters who have lost all human feeling can be wild and brutal caterpillars, gnawing at the communist mandos. They are paid to raid, to loot, to rape, to cut off heads, to slit bellies,

U.S. and satellite troops behave more overbearingly in the cities. Often enough they don't pay the rent, and they take the people of their belongings and money. Sometimes there were real organized robberies such as the one occurring in mid-October in Thanh Hoa. The bog wildly in the streets, causing hundreds of serious car accidents. They abuse and beat up passersby and their wives, plunder, and they also oppress police and troops and once even the puppet mayor of Saigon with the latter just swallowing the pill. They are really murdering Vietnamese through "mistakes and guns" and "mistaken shoot ings" and "mistaken bombings" and "mistaken" in such irresponsible killings. When caught red-handed and con-

AFTER being 14 years on the rampage in South Nam cities, U.S. neo-colonialism, for all its above-said sinister designs and cruel

Viet Nam have seen through the wicked scheme of the US and reacted violently. This is the reason why they have risen up in an ebullient and relentless drive against the

(3) "Nham Du
ments), Tome IV
Nam Son, Saigon

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(Continued from page 5)

The U.S. imperialists are sustaining big setbacks. They are confronted with ever growing difficulties in Viet Nam, in the world and right at home. Yet they remain very obdurate and still nurture the fantastic hope of securing a strong position on

If the U.S. authorities have a realistic view and approach, if they are determined to stop their policy of aggression in Viet Nam and are ready to settle the South Viet Nam problem in conformity with the ten-point overall solution of the South Viet Nam NFL, peace will be restored in Viet Nam, the U.S. will get out from the costly, unjust and immoral war, and its honour and prestige will be redeemed.

(Continued from page 3)

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and billions of dollars as

(1) Battle won by the PLAF in August 1965, for the first time over US troops landed en masse in South Viet Nam 4 months earlier, demonstrating in a masterly manner that the PLAF were perfectly capable of defeating seasoned US troops.

(Foot-notes are ours-Ed).

The Vietnamese people and the Government of the DRVN are firmly convinced that, with the iron-determination of the national union throughout the country to fight against aggression, and with the ever warmer sympathy and support of the peoples of the world, the Vietnamese people's just struggle for real independence, freedom and peace will without a doubt be crowned with victory.

During the same period, in central Trung Bo 10,000 puppet army men left their ranks either to return to their families or to take part in the resistance in the free zone. Besides, a company, 20 platoons and a "rural pacification" team were disbanded following desertions.

ON THE LARGE SOUTHERN FRONT

MILITARY OPERATIONS

CAMBODIA-NFL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS RAISED TO EMBASSY

REPORTS say that in the Mekong Delta, in the 11 days ending April 20, the regional troops and guerrillas of My Tho province, some 100 km Southwest of Saigon, mounted 70 attacks, inflicting on the enemy 950 casualties among them 100 GI's, destroying 37 vehicles and 6 artillery pieces and gunnelling 14 helicopters and planes. More than 4,000 people in occupied areas rose up, made away with 100 notorious secret agents and traitors and disarmed and sent home more than 100 puppet civil guards.

Not far from Ham Luong, 76 km Southwest of Saigon, in the province of Ben Tre, the PLAF wrote off the master-roll a puppet company, putting more than 100 troops out of action. Then repulsing attacks by enemy reinforcements on 18 occasions they took another toll of about 100 U.S.-puppet lives.

Further Southwest, guerrillas of Vinh Thuan district, 210 km from Saigon, relentlessly harassed an enemy force of 2,000 men on a raiding mission against several villages. Between April 23 and May 2, they put out of action 200 adverse soldiers of whom 140 fell to the guns of a unit of militia women. In a single shelling on May 2 against the Vinh Thuan sub-sector H.Q., this unit wiped out 70 enemy men, damaged beyond repair 6 105-mm cannons and burnt 2 units of shells and rockets and 8 fuel dumps.

N Quang Tri province, the U.S.-puppets also suffered heavy losses. In the sector south of the DMZ at the 17th parallel, 70 PLAF onslaughts between April 21 and April 30 cost the enemy 1,450 casualties, among them 500 GI's, 20 helicopters and planes downed or destroyed, to other aircraft damaged, 20 vehicles and 5 heavy mortars destroyed and 3 vessels sunk. (On Hill 126, 10 km north of Tam Lo, a company of Battalion 5, puppet Regiment 4, was knocked out on April 28 and 29. Later, it was the turn of another company of the same regiment.)

In the Lai Dat and A So areas, some 40 km Southwest of Hue, about 100 GI's were killed or wounded and 5 aircraft shot down in the first 5 days of May.

Further South, in the Nha Trang sector, on April 20 regional troops harassed the enemy throughout the day and put out of action some 100 adverse troops including 50 South mercenaries.

Combat news released by Giai Phong press agency this week focused on 3 main theatres of operation: the Saigon front, especially to the North and Northwest of the city, the Mekong Delta and the northernmost sector of South Viet Nam in Quang Tri province.

On the Saigon front, the patriots were very active in Tay Ninh province,

more than 50 km Northwest of the capital. Two major annihilation battles were won on May 1 and May 6 respectively at Tay Cho and Dong Pan. In the first, the PLAF destroyed a battalion H.Q. and wiped out 3 puppet paratroop companies, brought down 6 helicopters and seized many weapons. At Dong Pan, some 100 km Northwest of Saigon and 26 km North-Northeast of Tay Ninh, 2 U.S. infantry companies and 5 U.S. artillery companies were put out of action.

Not far from Go Dau, a military sub-sector H.Q., 57 km Northwest of Saigon, the PLAF sank on April 28 2 enemy patrol boats on Vam Co Dong river and the next day, intercepting a 6-wheel flotilla on the same river, they sent to the bottom 5 craft and wiped out the 3 U.S. platoon on board. On April 27, in the same sector, Gia Binh post, 50 km Northwest of Saigon, was taken. At this post and assigned the pacification job, only 12 could escape whereas all others were put out of action.

Further, near the Cambodian border, the battles around Ca Tum, an enemy forward post and C.P., 110 km Northwest of Saigon, also in Tay Ninh province, in the 10-day period from April 18 to April 27, 120 adverse soldiers, mostly GI's, killed or wounded, to 10 GI tanks and M113 armoured personnel carriers destroyed and 5 helicopters shot down. On April 24

alone, guerrillas destroyed 3 tanks of the U.S. 18th Armoured Cavalry Regiment on the Ca Tum-Can Le route.

In a neighbouring province, a successful ambush was laid by the patriots on Route No.13 south of Hon Quan, about 87 km North of Saigon. After 30 minutes' fighting, the PLAF destroyed 25 vehicles including 17



Enemy armoured cars destroyed by PLAF at Tay Ninh (South Viet Nam);

armoured cars, shot down 5 helicopters and wiped out a U.S. infantry company and a U.S. motorized company. On May 2 and 3, two other ambushes set on the same route between Chon Thanh

and Hon Quan cost the enemy 24 other vehicles destroyed.

Lastly, in the Ben Cat area, 45 km North-Northeast of Saigon, regional troops successfully fought off an



meeting to demonstrate their determination to fight and their support to the action of 200 fellow-workers in the transport service of the U.S. 15th battalion.

The stoppage was still going on May 1.

Meanwhile, over 1,000 workers of the BGI (Breweries and Ice-boxes of Indochina) required of their employers a wage-like and satisfaction of the claims put forward since November last.

In April last, one still remembers, 77 "deputies" of the so-called House of Representatives signed a petition to puppet Nguyen Van Thieu demanding revision of the verdict and immediate release of Thich Thien Minh.

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News in Brief

SAIGON WORKERS STEP UP ACTIONS

On the occasion of the International Labour Day, despite Thieu-Ky-Huong's crack-down and demagogic stunts, the Saigon workers and labouring people stepped up the struggle for democratic and economic rights, while denouncing the treason of the working class in Quang Tri, an agent of the ruling clique and "President of the Trade-Union" in the temporary occupied zone, GPA reported.

On the morning of May 1, during a meeting of over 5,000 representatives of 123 Saigon trade-unions, Tran Quoc Huu's agents disguised as workers promulgated demagogic motives aimed at dividing and misleading the workers' movement. However, the participants laid bare the scheme of the ringleaders and forced the latter into acceptance of such claims as participation in the management of the enterprises, amendment of the labour law, increase of minimum wages, trade-union liberties, abolition of "general mobilization" decree, etc.

On the same day, bravely police ban, hundreds of work-

ers from the public transport service gathered on the pavements of Le Van Duyet, Nguyen Anh, Nguyen Du and Cao Thang streets, carrying signs urging improvement of their living conditions.

Within their trade-unions, the workers denounced the demagogic manoeuvres of Thieu-Ky-Huong to hamstring the workers' movement. They unmasked the agents of this clique who had infiltrated the ranks of the 10-68 fascist law, enforcement of trade-union rights, increase of wages, reduction of the living costs, income-tax slashes, end of the aggressive war and respect of the right for the South Vietnamese to shape their own destinies.

According to the same source, the Saigon dockers indignant at the obstinate and arrogant attitude of the American employers, carried on their strike and maintained on their claims.

Following the strike of 500 Saigon dockers on April 20, representatives of 5,000

COMMITTEE FOR THE RELEASE OF THICH THIEN MINH SET UP

A group called "Committee for the Release of Thich Thien Minh" has just been set up by well-known Saigon intellectuals and representatives of religious sects of South Viet Nam. Western sources reported. Superior Boon Thich Thien Minh was arbitrarily sentenced to 10 years of hard labour and 5 years of confinement by a court of the Thieu-Ky-Huong puppet clique. A UPI despatch

PUPPET M.P. REVEALS DEVILS ISLANDS DETAINEES' PLIGHT

According to the paper *Chau Lai* (Just Voice) appearing in Saigon, Ho Ngoc Nham, a "deputy" to the puppet National Assembly, has just revealed after a trip to Poulo Condor that the number of deportees had doubled as under Ngo Dinh Diem. After Ho Ngoc Nham, the reason was that many people had been sent there following arrests during "mopping-up" opera-

tions in Quang Nam, Quang Ngai and Quang Tri provinces.

More than 400 people, the puppet M.P. added, were still in jail although their terms had ended two or three months ago. Besides, over 500 prisoners over 50, 60 years of age, gravely affected by incurable diseases, were desperately waiting for their return to the native land.

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